

REMARKS**INTRODUCTION**

In accordance with the following, reconsideration of the allowability of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10 are pending and under consideration.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC §102

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 USC §102(a) as being anticipated by the Background of the present application, paragraphs [0003]-[0005] (Background). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

By way of review, independent claim 1 sets forth:

An apparatus that generates a video-reproducing clock signal from a 480p signal that includes a vertical synchronization signal, horizontal synchronization signals, and copy guard signals, the apparatus comprising:

a coast signal generating unit, which generates a plurality of coast signals with pulse widths, each of which covers the different number of copy guard signals on the basis of the present copy guard signal in one frame signal of the 480p signal; and

a clock signal generating unit, which generates horizontal synchronization signals at the same period as that of the horizontal synchronization signals generated in a previous frame, while the corresponding coast signal is being generated.

Here, independent claim 1 requires the generation of plural coast signals with pulse "widths". Each of the pulse widths must cover a different number of copy guard signals. Further, the plural coast signals that each cover a different number of copy guard signals must be generated based on a present copy guard signal in one frame signal.

Conversely, Background does not generate plural coast signals with pulse widths, as all coast signals in Background would have a single pulse width.

Further, the pulse width of the single coast signal of Background would not cover a different number of copy guard signals, but rather would always only cover the same number of copy guard signals.

Lastly, arguably, if different pulse width coast signals are ever generated by the system of Background, the different pulse width coast signals would be respectively derived from different frame signals, not the same one frame signal.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Background fails to disclose or suggest all the claimed features of independent claim 1.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC §103

Claims 2-3 and 5-10 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Background in view of Irie, U.S. Patent No. 5,621,475. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

By way of review, and only as an example, independent claim 5 sets forth:

An apparatus that generates a video-reproducing clock signal from a 480p signal that includes a vertical synchronization signal, horizontal synchronization signals, and copy guard signals, the apparatus comprising:
a storage unit that stores information of the period of the horizontal synchronization signals generated in a previous frame;
a counter, that counts falling edges of signals generated after the vertical synchronization signal included in the 480p signal;
a coast signal generating unit that generates n coast signals with n different pulse widths on the basis of the count values of the counter; and
a clock signal generating unit that generates the horizontal synchronization signals with the period according to the information stored in the storing unit and generates a clock signal using the generated horizontal synchronization signals, while the coast signal is being generated, and that generates the clock signal using horizontal synchronization signals included in the 480p signal while the coast signal is not being generated.

Similar to independent claim 1, the apparatus of independent claim 5 requires the generation of plural coast signals with different pulse widths.

In addition, independent claim 5 further requires a counter to count the falling edges of signals generated after the vertical synchronization signal and use the result of this counter as a basis for generating the plural coast signals with different pulse widths.

The Office Action has relied upon Background to disclose a coast signal that is generated to address copy guard pulses that follow a vertical synchronization signal. The Office Action further relies upon Background to set forth the claimed generating of a clock signal while the coast signal is being generated. Here, briefly, according to Background, the coast signal must be with regard to the copy guard pulses of Background to meet this claimed generating of the clock signal while the coast signal is being generated.

The Office Action indicates that Background fails to disclose the generation of plural coast signals with different pulse widths, or the claimed counter to count the falling edges of signals generated after the vertical synchronization signal and to use the result of this counter as a basis for generating the plural coast signals with different pulse widths.

To disclose this generation of plural coast signals with different pulse widths and the claimed counting of the falling edges for the generation of the plural coast signals, the Office Action has further relied upon Irie.

In particular, the Office Action indicates that Irie sets forth "a counter that counts falling edges of signals in the present frame signal of the frame signal (see figure 1B, counter); and a coast signal generator that generate n coast signals with n different pulse widths on the basis of the counted falling edges of signals."

However, as noted above, to rely upon Background to set forth the claimed generating of the clock signal while the coast signal is being generated, the term "coast signal" must be given the same interpretation as in Background, and the generation of just any mask based upon any falling edge signal detection would not read on the claimed counting of the falling edges in combination with the requirement of the claimed coast signal generating unit of using a result of that counting for the generation of plural coast signals.

Accordingly, Irie does not disclose or suggest the counting of edge signals that can be used in the generating of coast signals with different pulse widths.

First, Irie sets forth a counter for a completely different purpose than the claimed counter, to count the occurrence of detected synchronization signals to determine whether an input signal is a proper video signal.

Further, Irie first filters a detection of synchronization signals for noise to remove the detection of a signal that is not a synchronization signal. To perform this filtering, Irie uses a timing circuit 4 to start a timer for generating a consistent and same pulse width mask correlating with the detection of the falling edge of the horizontal synchronization signal, which corresponds to a rising edge of the interpreted composite synchronous signal. "The mask time circuit 4 detects the edges 7 of the rising composite synchronous signals synchronized to the time of the edges of the horizontal synchronous signals, and starts the time for masking the edges of the composite synchronous signals for the specified period set in a ROM of the image signal judging circuit 1." Irie in col. 3, lines 28-34.

Irie generates a mask after upon the detection of the horizontal synchronization signal, during this proper video determination operation, to remove the noise generated after the horizontal synchronization signal. "Namely, noise caused by the aforementioned distortion is apt to be generated immediately after the horizontal synchronization signals, and practically as shown in FIGS. 5A and 5B, noise 10 is generated." Irie in col. 1, lines 43-47.

FIG. 2A of Irie illustrates the horizontal synchronization signals, followed by noise 5. As explained in Irie, this noise 5 may be interpreted as a synchronization signal and then "counted" by the counter, such that a proper input video signal would be classified as not a proper video signal because of this improper interpretation of noise 5 as a synchronization signal. FIG. 2B illustrates the corresponding noise 6 that could be improperly counted by the counter.

FIG. 2C of Irie thus illustrates the application of the predetermined width mask upon detection of each horizontal synchronization signal. Accordingly, only the composite synchronous signal corresponding to the actual horizontal synchronization signal is counted and the noise 5/6 can be ignored.

Thus, the mask in Irie is not a coast signal, and Irie does not disclose or suggest plural masks with different pulse widths.

Still further, any counting performed by the counter of Irie has no relationship to any generation of a coast signal, or the claimed plural coast signals with different pulse widths.

Accordingly, even if the teaching of Irie were applied to Background, the combination still would fail to disclose or suggest at least the claimed coast signal generating unit generating the plural coast signals with different pulse widths based on a counting result from the claimed counter.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 5 is patentably distinguishable over Background and Irie, alone or in combination. For at least the above, it is equally submitted that independent claim 8, with differing scope and breadth, is equally patentably distinguishable over Background and Irie, alone or in combination. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are equally in allowable condition based at least on their dependence from respective allowable base claims and their respective features.

Withdrawal of these rejections and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested.

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's related art in view of Kim, U.S. Patent No. 7,015,973. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In view of at least the above, it is respectfully submitted that claim 4 is at least allowable based upon its dependence from an allowable base claims and its respective features.

In addition, it is noted that the present application has a priority date of December 26, 2002, before the publication date of U.S. Publication No. 2003/0063220, corresponding to Kim,

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and is thus not a proper §102(a) reference. Further, Kim is not a proper reference under 35 USC §102(e), based upon 35 USC §103(c).

Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

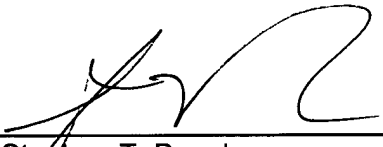
Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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12/14/09

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